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Special instructions or supplemental message: **Attorney Docket No. A1232-US-NP – REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL and PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT to follow.**

Inventor(s): Alain E. Perregaux et al.

Application No.: 09/996,681

Filed: 11/30/2001

Examiner: Lan Vinh

Art Unit: 1765

Confirmation No.: 4178

**Title: USE OF A U-GROOVE AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO USING A V-GROOVE FOR PROTECTION AGAINST DICING INDUCED DAMAGE IN SILICON**

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